

~~SECRET~~

17
May 1955

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VIEWS OF JEAN SAINTENY

I. Jean Sainteny, French delegate to North Vietnam, last week remarked he was surprised US had not closed its consulate in Hanoi.

A. Jokingly told American consul Sainteny mission might leave before consul did.

B. Sainteny, planning trip to France first part of June, offered to bet he would have difficulty getting transit visa for return travel across US.

II. Sainteny thought division of Vietnam at 17th Parallel meant that Chinese would take over France's former position in Tonkin, but insisted Viet Minh would resist Chinese domination.

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